

The Brooks County Board of Commissioners met for a Special Called Meeting on Tuesday, December 18, 2018 at 5:30 p.m. in the Commissioners Meeting Room located at the Brooks County Office Building. Commissioners present were: Ms. Myra Exum, Chairperson; Mr. Joe Wingate, Vice Chairman; Mr. Willie Cody; Mr. S. L. Jones; and Mr. James Maxwell. Others present were: Ms. Patricia Williams; Interim County Administrator/County Clerk; County Attorney, Mr. Vann Parrott; and various residents.

**A. SPECIAL CALLED MEETING** – Chair Exum called meeting to order.

Chair Exum requested to amend the agenda to include an executive session for personnel issues. Mr. Wingate made a motion to amend the agenda to include an executive session, Mr. Maxwell seconded. Vote was unanimous.

**1. Ben DeVane – Approve 2019 LMIG Project List** – Mr. DeVane presented the following 2019 LMIG Project List for approval to be submitted to GDOT:

<u>Road Name &amp; Number</u>	<u>Begin Point</u>	<u>End Point</u>
1. BCR 275 Grooverville Road	Ferris Road	Liberty Church Road
2. BCR 136 Pleasant Hill	SR 122	Green Gate on Left
3. BCR 279 Coffee Road	Rhym Lane	Belcher Road
4. BCR 305 Dixie Road	1300' East of Bridge at RR	Mailbox 5490
5. BCR 39 Burton Road	Mailbox 5071	Cross Drain Culvert
6. BCR 88 Aikens Circle	Madison Highway	Madison Highway

The total miles for project list is 5.5 miles. GDOT funding is \$690,768.82; County 10% match is \$69,076.88, total cost: \$770,000. On the motion by Mr. Maxwell, seconded by Mr. Wingate, the Board unanimously approved the 2019 LMIG Project List to be submitted to GDOT.

**2. Ben DeVane – Update on GDOT Request for Support Agreement on Roundabout Construction on SR 122 @ SR 333** – During the December regular meeting, the Board requested Mr. DeVane to attend the concept meeting held by GDOT in Tifton, GA on December 10<sup>th</sup> for the Roundabout Construction on SR 122 @ SR 333 Moultrie Highway. Mr. DeVane reported to the Board he inquired with several questions; he asked if they had a proposed start date of construction or a completion date? GDOT responded that was to be determined; and they have no preliminary plans yet. There will be 6 parcels of ROW acquired; additional will be determined. There is no cost estimate yet; Colquitt EMC will provide later. Mr. DeVane inquired as to the electric energy cost to Brooks County; was told Colquitt EMC will provide later. There was no information as to the maintenance cost for the County; no information for cost regarding maintenance of landscape; and no plans for description of lighting or proposed landscaping. Neither did they have concept drawings with adequate details.

Discussion entailed regarding possible problems with the roundabout being large enough for farm equipment, log trucks, etc. going through. After discussion along with Special Called Meeting December 18, 2018 Page 1 of 4

the information from Mr. DeVane, the Board decided they did not have enough information to sign the Support Agreement for the Roundabout. The Board unanimously authorized Interim Administrator to prepare a letter to send to GDOT stating Brooks County concurs with the concept; but cannot commit to funds until they have more information available, Mr. Cody made the motion; Mr. Wingate seconded.

**Executive Session** – Mr. Wingate made a motion to go out of special called meeting and into executive session at 5:25 pm. to discuss personnel.

The Board returned to special called meeting at 5:57 pm on the motion by Mr. Wingate, seconded by Mr. Maxwell. No action was taken.

**3. Buddy Holwell – Renewal of Property & Liability Insurance and Workers' Comp for 2019** – Mr. Holwell presented the 2019 Renewal for Property & Liability Insurance and Workers' Comp. He informed the Board the County has an increase in the Experience Mod of 2.27; which is very high. Mr. Holwell has worked closely with Administration to find ways to try and lower cost; by reviewing vehicle inventory, equipment, etc. This year workers comp insurance cost increased by approximately \$60,000; but with adjustments hopefully it will increase only \$30,000; and we will get a return for \$15,000 as we did for 2018. General liability and property increased \$15,898. The cost for 2018 was \$414,770 and renewal for 2019 is \$485,065. The Board requested Mr. Holwell to report to the Board at least two to three times a year to keep updated on insurance and claims. Plans were also discussed as to ways to get lower premium. Mr. Wingate made the motion to accept the 2019 Renewal of Property and Liability Insurance and Workers' Comp, Mr. Cody seconded. Vote was unanimous.

**4. Re-appoint Dr. Gerald Golden to Tax Assessors Board** – On the motion by Mr. Maxwell, the Board unanimously re-appointed Dr. Gerald Golden to the Tax Assessors Board for a three year term beginning January 1, 2019 and expires December 31, 2021, seconded by Mr. Wingate.

**5. Discuss Rolling Over CD Interest into Account** – Administration inquired to the Board whether or not they would like the monthly accrued interest for the CDs with Edward Jones to continue to be deposited in General Funds, Fire Fee Fund; and if wanted to include the same for the new CD or let the interest capitalize back to the CDs. County Auditor, Mr. Gary Zeigler, informed the Board that the interest has been budgeted in the current budget line item; and to stay in compliance, we need to let it continue as is for the General Funds, and Fire Fee. After discussion, Mr. Maxwell motioned to let the interest for the General Fund CDs and Fire Fee to continue to be deposited in the accounts; but let the interest capitalize back to the new CD for the General Fund since it is not included in the current budget, Mr. Cody seconded. Vote was unanimous.

**6. Discuss CD Investments with Edward Jones Investments – Mr. Wingate** – Mr. Wingate requested this item be placed on the agenda for discussion. He had concerns regarding all of the CDs being with Edward Jones Investments and taken away from local banks, and local banks are part of the community; and these are taxpayer funds

we are dealing with. Mr. Wingate stated that the local banks contribute funds/donations to the community; and does many things for the community. He feels the funds should be spread throughout the community; and not just one source.

**7. Repairs for Brush Truck at East Brooks Volunteer Fire Department** – During the December regular meeting, Fire Chief, Wesley Lyles, East Brooks Volunteer Fire Department, presented quotes for repair of their Brush Truck for Board consideration. The following quotes were submitted:

1.	Langdale Ford	\$13,344.33
2.	Blackwater Engines	\$11,325.00
3.	Shiver Diesel Injection and Turbo	\$16,654.33
4.	S & S Automotive & Diesel, Inc.	\$16,720.11
5.	Walt's Ford Live Oak	\$18,474.99

The quote from Langdale Ford in the amount of \$13,344.33 was unanimously approved to repair the Brush Truck at East Brooks Volunteer Fire Department on a motion by Mr. Maxwell and seconded by Mr. Wingate. The funds will come from the Briggs Fire District account.

**8. FY2018 Audit – Gary Zeigler** – Mr. Zeigler informed the Board that the FY2018 Audit is not complete; he presented a detailed summary of the Audit as a review of the audit. The review included a Five Year History of financial statements from 2014 thru 2018 for comparison. There are two issues that will affect future finances. One being the Timber Evaluation; and second the County's Pension Plan.

HB85 and HR51 passed House and Senate, Governor signed May 2, 2018, Voters approved the legislation in November; and will be effective January 1, 2019. This caused a change of calculation of the Local Assistance Grant, which caused a reduction to the digest. The State will phase in the reduction over the next five years. This reduction equates to one mill of taxes.

The Pension Plan (GEBCorp) for the County had an increase in income/gain during 2018; which caused a decrease in the County's contribution. Next year's contribution will increase.

There was an unanticipated benefit received from Sabal Trail (\$303,000), it came earlier than anticipated and was included in the budget. Mr. Zeigler also presented Five Year Comparative State from 2014-2018. He further stated to the Board that the County is in the strongest financial position he has seen in several years.

## **B. Executive Session – Personnel**

The Board went out of Executive Session and returned to the Special Called Meeting at 5:57 pm, no action was taken.

**C. Adjournment**

Mr. Maxwell made the motion; Mr. Wingate seconded; to adjourn the special called meeting at 8:18 p.m.

Ms. Myra Exum, Chair

Ms. Patricia A. Williams, Interim Administration/County Clerk

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